

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Application Number:

Filing Date:

First Named Inventor: Eric Torbet

Application Title: Spring-Loaded Tube Squeezing Device

Art Unit:

Examiner Name:

Mailed: 2004 Jan 6 Tues

At: Goleta, CA

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir or Madam:

Attached is a completed Form PTO/SB/08 (substitute for form PTO-1449). Following are comments on the references listed thereon pursuant to Rule 98:

Gill shows a tube squeezing device comprising two lever handles, two rollers, and a crank. The user must manually compress the rollers together in order to squeeze a tube.

Johnson shows a tube squeezing device comprising two rollers and two torsional springs. The user is alleviated of the task of squeezing the tube, but no means for separating the rollers, and no means for turning the rollers to advance the device forward, is provided.

Tschida shows a tube squeezing device comprising two lever handles, two fractional rollers, and two elastic bands. The device is self-advancing and requires no crank, however the user must still manually compress the fractional rollers in order to squeeze a tube.

None of the references shows a tube squeezing device which alleviates the user of the task of squeezing the tube, which provides a means for advancing the device forward, and which provides a means for separating the rollers to allow for insertion and extraction of a tube, as is recited in independent claim 1 and hence its dependent claims 2 to 9.

Very respectfully,



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